AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for testing ~~the navigational response of~~ a digital content player, the method comprising:

playing digital content using the digital content player, the digital content ~~being arranged to cause~~ comprising identification data capable of being output by the digital content player to produce an ~~assigned~~ identifiable output ~~from the player~~;

~~ascertaining a current playback position with respect to a navigation structure of the content using the assigned identifiable output;~~

~~comparing an identifiable output corresponding to the digital content with the digital content or with a current location within the digital content to determined if~~ determining whether the ~~ascertained position~~ identifiable output of the player corresponds to an anticipated or expected position within the digital content; and

assessing the player using that determination.

2. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said ascertaining~~ comparing comprises sampling an output signal of the player and extracting the identifiable output from the sampled output signal.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~said ascertaining~~ comparing comprises comparing the identifiable output with identification data associated with the digital content.

Claims 4-10 (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 38 ~~10~~, wherein monitoring comprises identifying unpredictable navigational behaviour of the player in response to a corresponding aspect of the digital content, and wherein reauthoring the content in response to the monitoring comprises at least ~~of~~ editing or deleting the corresponding aspect of the digital content to at least reduce~~, and preferably remove,~~ the unpredictable navigational behaviour.

12. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 11 ~~10~~ further comprising ensuring the reauthored digital content complies with an associated technical standard.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

14. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12 ~~10~~, wherein at least one of the first digital content and the authored digital content comprises DVD video image data, including both presentation and navigation data.

Claims 15-18 (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) The method of testing as claimed in claim 39 ~~18~~ further comprising analyzing data associated with selectable navigation paths of the digital content and selecting the ~~control~~ navigational commands in response to said analyzing.

20. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein determining comprises comparing data associated with the responses of the plurality of players to the control commands with the analysis of the data associated with the selectable navigation paths to determine a degree of correlation between the data associated with the responses and the data associated with the selectable navigation paths.

21. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein analyzing ~~analysing~~ comprises:
   identifying a plurality of menu choices;
   selecting one menu choice from the plurality of menu choices; and

selecting the control command according to the selected menu choice.

22. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein selecting one menu choice comprises:

determining the respective number of times that the plurality of menu choices have been invoked; and

selecting the one menu choice according to the respective number of invocations.

23. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 19 wherein analyzing data associated with selectable navigation paths comprises identifying the data as being associated with a predeterminable function, the predeterminable function governing an onward navigation path selectable from a plurality of possible onward navigation paths; and wherein determining whether or not the plurality of players processed the data associated with the selectable navigation paths through the digital content comprises identifying the onward navigation path from the data processed by the plurality of players.

24. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 23 wherein analyzing data associated with selectable navigation paths comprises generating data associated with each possible onward navigation path; and wherein identifying the onward navigation path comprises discarding the generated data associated with selectable possible onward navigation paths.

25. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1 18 further comprising creating, via a user interface, a plurality of control commands to be issued to the plurality of player[[s]].

Claims 26-28 (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, 18 wherein the digital content has been verified as complying with an associated technical standard.

30. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29 further comprising verifying that the digital content complies with the associated technical standard.

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31. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 29 wherein the digital content complies with at least one of the DVD specifications.

32. (Currently Amended) A method of authoring digital content comprising the steps of testing a plurality of digital content players using a method as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ claim 1; and reauthoring digital content in response to said testing.

Claims 33-36 (Cancelled).

37. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising providing an indication of the result or results of the determination.

38. (New) A method as claimed in claim 37, further comprising monitoring the results and reauthoring the content in response to the monitoring.

39. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the digital content player is caused to play the digital content by inputting navigational commands thereto.

40. (New) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium having computer readable instructions recorded thereon for testing the navigational response of a digital content player, the computer readable instructions being operative, when performed by a computerized device, to cause the computerized device to:

play digital content using the digital content player, the digital content being arranged to cause the digital content player to produce an assigned identifiable output;

ascertain a current playback position with respect to a navigation structure of the content using the assigned identifiable output;

determine whether the ascertained position corresponds to an anticipated or expected position within the digital content; and

assess the player using that determination.

41. (New) A system for testing the navigational response a digital content player, the system being arranged to:

play digital content using the digital content player, the digital content being arranged to cause the digital content player to produce an assigned identifiable output;

determine a current playback position with respect to a navigation structure of the content using the assigned identifiable output; and

determine whether the ascertained position corresponds to an anticipated or expected position within the digital content, thereby assessing the player.

42. (New) A method for testing a player for digital content, the method comprising:

assigning an identifier or identifiers of position with respect to a navigation structure of digital content;

causing a first player to produce an output associated with said identifier or identifiers by playing said digital content on the first player;

identifying a position within the navigation structure of the digital content using said output;

comparing the identified position with a corresponding identified position of a second player playing the same digital content, thereby determining whether the identified position of the first player corresponds to an anticipated or expected position; and

assessing the first player using that determination.

43. (New) The method as claimed in claim 42, wherein said assessing the first player comprises judging whether the first player is acceptable.

44. (New) The method as claimed in claim 42, in which the second player has been certified as being compliant with a respective technical standard.

45. (New) A computer program product comprising a computer-readable medium having computer readable instructions recorded thereon for testing the navigational response of a digital content player, the computer readable instructions being operative, when performed by a computerized device, to cause the computerized device to:

assign an identifier or identifiers of position with respect to a navigation structure of digital content;

cause a first player to produce an output associated with said identifier or identifiers by playing said digital content on the first player;

identify a position within the navigation structure of the digital content using said output;

compare the identified position with a corresponding identified position of a second player playing the same digital content, thereby determining whether the identified position of the first player corresponds to an anticipated or expected position; and

assess the first player using that determination.

46. (New) A system for testing the navigational response of a digital content player, the system being arranged to:

assign an identifier or identifiers of position with respect to a navigation structure of digital content;

cause a first player to produce an output associated with said identifier or identifiers by playing said digital content on the first player;

identify a position within the navigation structure of the digital content using said output;

compare the identified position with a corresponding identified position of a second player playing the same digital content, thereby determining whether the identified position of the first player corresponds to an anticipated or expected position; and

assess the first player using that determination.